

10/562712

PATENT

81872.0106

Express Mail Label No. EV 667 736 646 US

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 23 DEC 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

HIGASHIHARA, et al.

Serial No: Not Assigned

Filed: December 23, 2005

For: Process For Forming Metal Plating
Film, Process For Manufacturing
Electronic Components and
Apparatus for Forming Plating Film

Art Unit: Not Assigned

Examiner: Not Assigned

**TRANSMITTAL OF
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

1. ☒ The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b).
2. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(b), but *before* the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c).

§1.97(e) STATEMENT

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

OR FEE

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c). (\$180.00). [OR:] Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.

3. ☐ The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed *after* the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).

§1.97(e) STATEMENT

I, the person signing below, state:

- ☐ that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

OR

- ☐ that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).

AND FEE

- ☐ Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).
4. ☒ If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. **A copy of this petition is enclosed.**

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5. ☒ A list of 8 reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

JAP2005-120770 23 DEC 2005

NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES

- ☐ Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
- ☒ The applicant has provided machine translations of the cited references as a matter of courtesy. The translations have not been reviewed for accuracy.
- ☐ Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references:

Respectfully submitted,
HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

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Date: December 23, 2005

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Express Mail Label No. EV 667 736 632 US

FORM PTO-1449

Docket Number (Optional)
81872.0106Application Number
Not Assigned**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant

HIGASHIHARA, et al.

Filing Date

December 23, 2005

Group Art Unit

Not Assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,647,966 (counterpart Japanese Pub. 08-162352))	07/15/97	URIU, et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO
	2000-109993	04/18/00	JAPAN			Abstract & Machine Translation	
	08-088305	04/02/96	JAPAN			Abstract & Machine Translation	
	2002-371382	12/26/02	JAPAN			Abstract & Machine Translation	
	06-302469	10/28/94	JAPAN			Abstract & Machine Translation	
	2001-060528	03/06/01	JAPAN			Abstract & Machine Translation	
	2000-243650	09/08/00	JAPAN			Abstract & Machine Translation	
	08-162352 (counterpart U.S. 5,647,966)	06/21/96	JAPAN				X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.